1990-91	125.46	69.66
1991-92	127.28	72.17
1992-93	126.57 (Estimated)	Not available

(b) to (d) During current Kharif 93 season, as on 15-7-1993, the sales of urea registered an increase of 27% compared to the same period last year while that of DAP and MOP registea-d a decline of 56 and 44 per cent respectively. Decline in the sale of DAP and MOP has been mainly due to the increase in their prices consequent on their decontrol in August, 1992. The Government of India have provided a sum of Rs. 756 crores for sale of decontrolled fertilizers at concessional rates *during the Kharif and* Rabi seasons during the current year.

Priority towards Co-operatives Sector

1563. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have given low priority to the Co-operative sector,

(b) what is Government's assessment regarding co-operatives set up in the backdrop of liberalisation of economy; and

(c) if not. how Government propose to strengthen co-operatives and make it a people's movement ?

THE MINISTER OH STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Government have felt need to give more autonomy to cooperatives and to strengthen them. Various steps undertaken to strengthen the cooperatives include the preparation of Business Development Plans for Primary Agricultural Cooperative Societies, formulation of a national policy on cooperation and reformulation of Multi State Cooperative Societies Act, 1984 on the lines of recommendations of the Committee set up by Planning Commission. Cooperation being a State subject State Governments have also been requested to reformulate their cooperative legislations in order to give desired autonomy to the cooperatives so as to make cooperatives a people's movement.

Mushroom Cultivation Programme

1564. SHRI BISHAMBHAR NATH PANDE:
SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY:
Win the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Commission of the European Communities and the Ph.D. Chamber of Commerce and Industry have agreed to undertake a massive mushroom cultivation programme; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) The Government is not aware about the agreement to undertake the massive mushroom cultivation programme by PH.D. Chamber of Commerce with the assistance of Commission of the European Community.

(b) Does not arise.

केन्द्रीय भांडागार निगम के माल-गोदामों में अनियमितताएं

1565. श्री ईश दत्त यादव : क्या खाद्य मंत्री 26 फरवरी, 1993 को राज्य सभा में अतारांकित प्रश्न 557 के दिए गए उत्तर को देखेंगे और यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) माल-गोदामों में अनियमितताओं का पता लगाने के लिए सरकार द्वारा कौन-कौन से कदम उठाए जा रहे हैं,

(ख) पिछले छः महीनों के दौरान इस दिशा में कौन-कौन से कदम उठाए गए हैं; और

(ग) माल-गोदामों में पता लगी अनियमितताओं का ब्यौरा क्या है ?

खाद्य मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री कल्पनाथ राय) : (क) केन्द्रीय भंडारण निगम के भांडागारों में अनियमितताओं का पता लगाने के लिए निगम के वरिष्ठ अधिकारियों द्वारा वर्ष में दो बार भांडागारों का निरीक्षण किया जाता है जिसमें परिचालनों के सभी पहलुओं को देखा जाता है । सामान्य निरीक्षणों के अलावा, किन्हीं भी अनियमितताओं का पता लगाने के लिए भांडागारों की आंतरिक लेखा परीक्षा भी की जाती है ।

(ख) और (ग) गत छः महीनों अर्थात् जनवरी, 1993 से जून, 1993 के दौरान सामान्य निरीक्षणों के अंतर्गत 314 भांडागारों का निरीक्षण किया गया । इसके अतिरिक्त, आंतरिक लेखापरीक्षा दल द्वारा भी 58 भांडागारों का निरीक्षण किया गया जिसके दौरान स्टाक, स्टोर्ज और नकदी आदि से संबंधित

मामलों की जांच-पड़ताल की गई । इस अवधि के दौरान स्टाक, स्टोर्ज, नकदी आदि के संबंध में कोई अनियमितता/त्रुटि नहीं पायी गई ।

Production of Sugar in Gujarat

1566. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) what is the share of Gujarat in the total production of sugar in the country upto March, 1993:

(b) the percentage of increase in the production of sugar in the current year; and

(c) what was the total quantity of sugar produced in Gujarat during last two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALPNATH RAI): (a) Out of 92 29 lakh tonnes (provisional) of sugar produced in the country upto 31st March, 1993 during 1992-93 season (October-September), the sugar mills in Gujarat produced 6.39 lakh tonnes (provisional), which is 6.92% of the total production in the country.

(b) The sugar production in Gujarat during the current season i. e. 1992-93 up to 15th July, 1993 was 7.40 lakh tonnes (provisional), as against 7.33 lakh tonnes on the same date last season, thereby showing an increase of 1%.

(c) The required information is . as under:—

Sugar Year (October-September)	Production (lakh tonnes)
1990-91	8.32
1991-92	7.53

गुजरात में चीनी मिलों का बंद होना

1567. **श्री रामसिंह राठवा** : क्या स्वास्थ्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) 30 जून, 1993 की स्थिति के अनुसार गुजरात में बंद पड़ी चीनी मिलों की कुल संख्या कितनी है;

(ख) उनका ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ग) इन मिलों के बंद होने के क्या कारण हैं; और

(घ) इन मिलों को पुन: खोलने के लिए कौन-कौन से उपचारात्मक उपाय किए जा रहे हैं ?

स्वास्थ्य मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री कल्पनाथ राय) : (क) और (ख) गुजरात राज्य सरकार ने सूचित किया है कि एक चीनी मिल अर्थात् श्री उना तालुका खेदुत सहकारी खांड उद्योग मंडली लि०, उना, जिला जूनागढ़ 30 जून, 1993 को बंद कर दी गई थी । उन्होंने आगे सूचित किया है कि तीन अन्य चीनी मिलें अर्थात् तलाजा, धोराजी तथा गांधाडका (अमरेली) काफी समय से बंद पड़ी हैं ।

(ग) उना की उक्त चीनी मिल गन्ने की अपर्याप्त सप्लाई के कारण चालू मौसम के दौरान पेराई का कार्य नहीं कर सकी ।

(घ) गुजरात सरकार इस मिल के संबंध में गन्ने की उपलब्धता की स्थिति का मूल्यांकन कर रही है उसके बाद उचित कार्रवाई की जाएगी ।

Maintenance of Buffer Stock of Foodgrains

1568. SHRI S. AUSTIN : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have adopted any measures for the proper management of food economy with a view to maintain adequate buffer stock of foodgrains and to check the unprecedented rise in the prices thereof;

(b) if so, the details in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALPNATH RAI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. To maintain adequate buffer stock of foodgrains and to contain the price rises, the Government undertakes procurement operations through the Food Corporation of India and State Governments and their agencies on behalf of Food Corporation of India. A network with nearly 10,000 purchase Centres is set up throughout the country and is expanded as required from time to time. The procurement arrangements are made in advance of the commencement of each marketing Season. Wheat is procured by the Government under price support operations. There is no levy on wheat anywhere in the country at present. Paddy is purchased by the Food Corporation of India and other public agencies in the market at support prices. Rice is however, collected by way of statutory' levy on rice millers. For the Central Pool, as on 30-7-1993 rice to the extent of 117.75 lakh tonnes was procured as against 92.01 lakh tonnes procured on the same day last year and 128.29 lakh tonnes of wheat was procured on the same day as against 63.72 lakh tonnes last year. Higher procurement of both rice and wheat during this year will substantially replenish and augment the Central stocks and enable the Government to maintain supplies to States/Union Territories for Public Distribution System etc. at the desired levels.

(c) Does not arise.